

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 8 were pending in the application as originally filed.

By way of this preliminary amendment, the Applicant has amended claims 3, 5, 7 and 8 to remove multiple dependencies prior to calculating the filing fees, and has added new claims 9 - 14 to capture the subject matter lost by amendment of the previously multiple dependent claims.

Accordingly, claims 1-14 are currently pending.

Claim 1 is independent.

Claims 2-14 are dependent upon claim 1.

The application is now believed to be in proper form for favorable consideration on the merits.

Corresponding action is respectfully solicited.

PTO is authorized to charge any additional fees incurred as a result of the filing hereof or credit any overpayment to our account #02-0900.

Respectfully submitted,



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